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Table of contents

Featured Wood of the Month	2
Tale of the Tailless 8 Foot Beaver	3
Chips from the Woodpile	5
The Dickieson Church wood	6
Your package is coming!	7
Membership Renewal Form	8

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President's Message

Well, another year has just about come to an end. It was a year that we all slowly returned to normal after the pandemic that started way back in 2019. During that period our hobby of collecting woods was greatly affected. As we all know, passing out woods was not considered prudent at the time. But during the past few months it has been great to see new woods being issued and to observe wooden money collecting over all returning to normal.

Also, at this time of the year, I start thinking of the upcoming New Year and numismatic events that I am looking forward to attending. There are always lots happening at the local club level with their meetings, coin shows and other special events. On the provincial level, it is always great to travel to another club or for profit show and see if you can fill a spot on your want list. Lastly on the national front the annual Royal Canadian Numismatic Association convention is always a must attend. Each summer attending the CAWMC's AGM and breakfast meeting is the highlight of the wooden money collector's yearly event schedule. In 2023 it is being held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. It is never too early to start planning what events and meetings you are going to attend.

I would like to take this time to thank the members who work behind the scenes to make CAWMC a strong and vibrant club. Publishing of Timber Talk each month and the monthly articles are the biggest factors in keeping CAWMC members connected and informed of current events and what is happening in the hobby. Plus, members of the Association's Executive take time to make the Association run smoothly and are always available to give advice and deal with any issues that arise.

Do not forget to send in your membership dues for 2023!

Lisa and I would like to wish everyone and their families a safe and happy holiday season and all the best in 2023!!

Cheers, James

Featured Wood of the Month

USONA wood



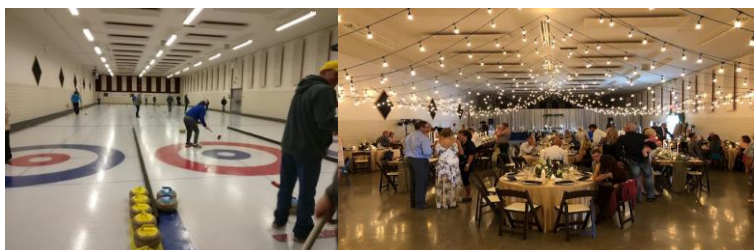
I had never heard of Usona until I picked up a wooden uniface token that read "USONA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY" at an antique store in Rimbey, Alberta in 2019. I set the token aside with some obviously USA tokens until the proprietor explained that USONA was a community about twenty kilometers away. I purchased the token and started my research. I was unable to contact anybody in Usona and forgot about it until 2021 when I made contact with a member of the USONA Agricultural Society. I found out the woods were drink tokens and were made around 1990 and the person I talked to thought they had made around 10,000. I arranged to pick up around 100 wood for our Association. Because of Covid I was unable to get there until April 2022. I located my contact about one kilometer West of the community hall and I picked up a coffee can full of tokens.

Al Munro

From Facebook: the Usona Agricultural Society is very active and this year is back with Farmer's Day(June), Halloween Activities (October) Harvest Dance (November) and organized crafts and curling. Looks like a fun place to be!

Quote from the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies website: "*Usona is known for their traditional games and pig chase (where you actually keep the pig if you catch it)!!!*"

USONA is a "populated place in Alberta, located 20 km northeast of Rimbey (Central Alberta). Google Maps shows less than 5 or 6 farms in that area.



"The Tale of the Tailless 8 Foot Beaver" by Rob Osborne

I was introduced to coin collecting when I was 8 or 9 years old. I collected coins and, (unfortunately for me) RCM and other mints, for many years.

It was only relatively recently that I discovered my true interest--history in the form of tokens/medals--and even more recently when I realized the importance of woods.

For some reason, woods seem to have the reputation of being the black sheep of the numismatic community--the outcast.

During the pandemic I found myself in Fort Smith NWT on a municipal water/sewer job on a 6 week in, two night home "rotation" and one of the things I did to keep myself sane was dive into the deep end of wooden nickel collecting.

I started collecting "good fors" from Ontario but quickly ended up with woods from all over Canada. The hardest one for me to find so far was a Good For 1 Cup of Coffee issued by 10 Acre Truck Stop in Belleville in 1992. Despite being relatively modern in comparison to most, it eluded me for over a year.

question asked a
WANTED TO BUY! SELL! TRADE!
GIVE AWAY! YARD SALE!
3h · 📍
Anyone want an 8-foot beaver? It's by the Anglican Hall, free for the taking. Tail and feet are missing.
(It's a small fortune worth of plywood... if you don't mind it being beaver-shaped!)



Getting back to those long days in Fort Smith, one day I opened Facebook and saw that the local Anglican Church had just posted that they were wanting rid of an 8' beaver. A left-over from some sort of youth group event, he was missing his tail but otherwise intact. I took one look at it and thought, Wooden Nickel!

I wasted no time in hurrying out to my loaner SUV thing (my rental truck was in for repairs) and rushing to the church. I folded down the back seats and shoved it in through the trunk far enough to shut the tailgate. It fit! I proudly took it back to my motel room and leaned it up against the kitchen wall--the only place it would



fit.

I had visions of turning the beaver into a wooden nickel, but life got in the way. I quit my job to start something completely new so I wrapped my beaver up in plastic and strapped it into the

back of my truck for the 12 hour drive home to Yellowknife. It lived in our storage room for months and then I snuck it into my new office but tucked it behind a desk.

At long last, the time came to finish what I had set out to do. With the help from my friend James Willison and his designer Robin, I have been not only been able to transform the beaver into an 8' wooden nickel (technically 7' 8 3/4") but my one-of-a-kind wooden nickel is now part of a set of 6!



Wood 9901-008, standing proud at 7' 8 3/4"

James and Robin created an image of the beaver for the obverse and then I planned on having two different reverses. For one reverse I wanted a traditional 5 cent pattern but for the other we recreated the reverse of the Belleville 10 Acre wood. For the traditional 5 cent reverse, James went with an Indian with the text "Wooden Nickel" (coincidentally, the same reverse as the last wooden nickel issued for the NWT in 1988) and the copy of the 10 Acre coffee reverse turned out great. James then went above and beyond and completed the set with a stylized version of the Ships Colonies & Commerce, a Christmas/New Year reverse, and a Halloween reverse!

The 8' Beaver is now a focal point in my office. People who come into my office for the first time always have the same two emotions, shock and happiness. No one could ever look at him and not smile! Ideally, I would like to commission proper graphics for him instead of my current best-effort with the office printer but our office is downsizing so his future is uncertain. **Rob**



Technical Specs:

9901-008 - Rob Osborne Canadian Token Collector (Beaver) / Good For 1 Cup Of Coffee - Year: 2022; Issued 1; Colour Obv: Brown; Colour Rev: Brown; Rating: 4, Shape: Beaver; Size: 1210 mm x 2330 mm

9901-009 - Rob Osborne Canadian Token Collector (Beaver) / Good For 1 Cup Of Coffee - Year: 2022; Issued 77; Colour Obv: Black; Colour Rev: Red; Rating: 2, Shape: RD; Size: 38 mm

9901-010 - Rob Osborne Canadian Token Collector (Beaver) / Wooden Nickel (Indian bust facing right) - Year: 2022; Issued 77; Colour Obv: Black; Colour Rev: Black; Rating: 2, Shape: RD; Size: 38 mm

9901-011 - Rob Osborne Canadian Token Collector (Beaver) / (Ships, Colonies & Commerce obverse) - Year: 2022; Issued 77; Colour Obv: Black; Colour Rev: Gold; Rating: 2, Shape: RD; Size: 38 mm

9901-012 - Rob Osborne Canadian Token Collector (Beaver) / Christmas Greetings Happy New Year (Santa bust facing right) - Year: 2022; Issued 27; Colour Obv: Black; Colour Rev: Red; Rating: 3, Shape: RD; Size: 38 mm

9901-013 - Rob Osborne Canadian Token Collector (Beaver) / Happy Halloween One Wooden Dollar (Skeleton) - Year: 2022; Issued 27; Colour Obv: Black; Colour Rev: Orange; Rating: 3, Shape: RD; Size: 38 m

P.S. I underestimated the number of people that would want these woods but I do have a very limited supply of full sets left if you contact me at rob4562@yahoo.com.

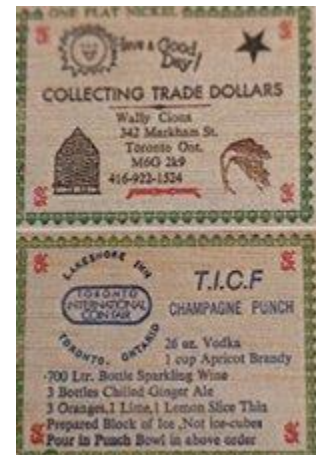
Chips from the Woodpile By Dave Gillespie

As the calendar is changed once more and December arrives, I would like you to look at your woods from P.E.I. or Norm's picture catalogue to appreciate the beautiful hand-made and painted woods produced by Ralph Dickieson from New Glasgow. The 1990 wood depicts a small church across the road from Ralph's home at the time of the year.



If you have a motorcycle and enjoy the hobby, you will already know that Port Dover, Ontario is a 'Biker's Delight' every Friday the 13th. Ross Kingdon discovered and arranged for a wood made for the event on July 13th, 2012, to be purchased and given out as a Free Wood of the Month (catalogue # 5743-001). The tradition started in 1981 and literally, hundreds and hundreds of bikers converge on the Town each Friday the 13th for the reunion and to celebrate. Maybe it's time to mark your calendar for the next Friday the 13th and hit the highway heading for Port Dover, Ontario.

A Toronto International Coin Fair (T.I.C.F.) wooden flat carries Quite a Punch. Starting in 1985, at the Friday night Dealers Reception a huge bowl sat on a table in the middle of the Diefenbaker Suite. As the reception got underway dealers seemed more interested in the bowl on the table rather than the open bar. It is reported that Walter Ciona was responsible for mixing the contents of the punch and he was continuously asked for the recipe. Rather than telling people, Walter arranged for T.I.C.F. to make 100 wooden (5 cent) flats, catalogue # 5900-246 and passed them out. Looking at the cocktail recipe you can understand why the punch was so popular.



There are two woods issued for the Charles Hotel Ltd., Boston Bar, British Columbia. If you examine the woods Cat.#1 9100-001 &002, you will also notice the reference to "OLD COG". The Cog Grinders's Club was the pet project of Walter (Cog)Harrington born in 1913 at Boston Bar. Harrington's father, Charles, homesteaded on a Crown grant where his son's hotel, garage and swimming pool now stand in Boston Bar. Cog Harrington drove trucks through the canyon for twenty-five years when the roads were little more than a shelf on the ledge.

It's Christmas time once again and a chance to celebrate the season with family and friends. We have all heard stories about the Three Wise Men. It is now being reported that history would have been different had it been Three Wise Women!!! The Three Wise Women would have asked for directions on how to get to Bethlehem; arrived on time; helped deliver baby Jesus; brought practical gifts; cleaned the stable; made a casserole and there would be Peace on Earth.

Til next time Let the Chips lie where they fall. Dave Gillespie

The Ralph Dickieson Church wood: One of my “treasures”



The picture of the New Glasgow church is a free image from the Internet.

Page | 6 December 2022

Your yearly package of free woods is coming

This year's monthly free woods, not yet distributed, are being prepared for mailing. Some members have already received their packages as I personally distributed many to our CAWMC members while attending the July RCNA convention in Ottawa. A sampling of this year's, good variety of woods, is shown here.

Many 'Thanks' goes out to these people, who have donated one or more, for this year. They are Judy Blackman, the late Jim Charlton, John and David Hnatiuk, Al Munro, Tim Saunders, France Waychison and Lou Vesh.

It was back in 1994 when Lou Vesh initiated this safer way of distributing our free woods to members, in order to avoid breakage of the woods. Since taking over this program in 1995. I have been so fortunate in having so many people send wood donations to me for distribution. To all those people, I say a big 'Thank You'.

Our CAWMC relies on donations to have free woods each month. This year's mailing is my last. All future donations should be mailed to Rob Osborne #301 5009K 44 Street , Yellowknife, NWT X1A 0E3 who will now be in charge of this program.

I hope you will support Rob as you have supported me.



Ross



I / We wish to JOIN or RENEW my membership in the Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors (CAWMC). Annual Dues are due before January 1st of 2023:

Canadian Resident \$10.00 / Youth (16 years of age and under) \$5.00 Canadian Funds

U.S. Resident \$10.00 / Youth (16 years of age and under) \$5.00

U.S. Funds International Resident (outside Canada and United States) \$20.00 Canadian Funds

Surname: _____ First Name: _____ Fee: _____

Mailing address: _____ (street, unit, etc.)

City / Town: _____ Province / State / Other: _____

Postal / Zip Code: _____ Country: _____

E-mail for receiving Timber Talk newsletter: _____

Contact Telephone (day time):_()_____ Please include the area code with the contact number above.

Note: your e-mail address is given to our Editor to set you up with website access to Timber Talk archives and other site features. Our President uses it to send out the newsletter by e-mail. Your mailing address is used by our Secretary for membership records, and for mailing out your woods annually if you are not available to receive them in person. If you receive your newsletter by Canada Post, our Secretary uses your address for that purpose. Your phone number is the CAWMC Executive to contact you if business dictates. We do not give out your contact information to anybody without your expressed consent beforehand. If you wish your contact information to be given in an upcoming Timber Talk as you wish to invite other members of the CAWMC to contact you for trading woods, or just hobby discussion, or for research on a wood you cannot identify, please contact our Editor.

Payment by E-transfer france@waychison.com. If there is a change in your address or phone number, please send an email to Al Munro wood5cents@shaw.ca or to France D. Waychison at france@waychison.com.

Payment by cheque: please send this completed form and your cheque to CAWMC

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